

Remarks

By this amendment, claims 3-7, 27 and 28 have been cancelled. Claims 8-11 and 20-26 are active and remain pending in the application. Reconsideration of subject applicant is respectfully requested in view of this amendment.

Conclusion

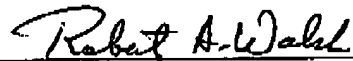
It is noted with appreciation that the Examiner allowed all claims 8-11 and 20-26 currently active in the subject patent application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner pass the application to issuance.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be advantageous to resolve the issues presented, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

For: Combs et al.

By:



Robert A. Walsh

Registration No. 26,516

Telephone No.: (802) 769-9521

Fax No.: (802) 769-8938